

Excerpts from my field diary (July 2009 onwards)

Pankaj Oudhia

Growing opposition faced by researchers working on Parthenium utilization.

Pankaj Oudhia

“Don’t do this. It will spoil the game.” It was the comment of fellow delegate during International Conference on Biodiversity organized at Mysore during March 12-14, 2010 where I was invited for guest lecture on Parthenium. I was presenting a paper on possible utilization of Parthenium as medicine through Traditional Healing methods.

As you know, Parthenium is one on the ten worst weeds of the world and due to its negative impacts on biodiversity and human health researchers around the world are in search of promising methods to manage it effectively. They are using single method and also integrating different methods. Few years back much work has been done on this aspect of Parthenium. But now researchers are loosing interest in it. They are suggesting number of methods for effective management but due to lack of government support, these methods are not coming at ground. As result Parthenium is multiplying very rapidly.

Utilization of Parthenium is not a new concept. In very first International Parthenium Conference in Dharwad, India there was special session on Parthenium utilization. In ancient Indian literatures it is mentioned that nothing is waste on this earth and it is ignorance of human beings that they have declared some plants as useful and others as waste. Modern researchers specially young researchers are working on this concept. They are searching new ways of Parthenium utilization. The experiments are on for developing compost from Parthenium. There are reports claiming that Parthenium extract and leachate can be used for benefit of certain crops. The use of Parthenium as medicine is not a new thing. In region from where Parthenium has been originated, it is in use as medicine. Parthenium hysterophorus is well known Homoeopathic medicine. I have documented that how the Traditional Healers are using it in complex herbal formulations used in treatment of different types of diseases including Type II Diabetes and cancer.

There are large numbers of researchers in India opposing utilization of Parthenium. According to them it must not be encouraged. Most of the researchers opposing Parthenium utilization are fond of Agrochemicals. They have received and still receiving much fund to search the promising chemical method of Parthenium management. The screening trials are in full swing. Agrochemicals are in recommendations and in the name of Parthenium management multinationals are earning much from Indians, If common people start using Parthenium for

different purposes even as medicine, the companies will suffer big blow. Their game will be spoiled.

“It means you are saying that grow Parthenium and make medicine.” I was asked during my presentation. “No, at this stage the utilization of Parthenium will help in reducing its population. This is “Management through utilization” concept. In future if researchers will require Parthenium and they decide to go for cultivation, it will be done under controlled condition so that it will not become hazardous for common people like present days.” I tried to explain.

“You have seen the plant; it looks dangerous and lethal from appearance. How you can even think of its utilization? Many say. I simply quote the example of Datura. It is very toxic and can take lives but if used judiciously it can save lives. “I think that internal use of Parthenium in any form can kill the user immediately.” One of fellow delegates said. But it is not true. Dr. Pandey from Jabalpur was with me during this visit. He informed that in his city the vegetable growers are mixing Parthenium plant parts with leafy vegetable intentionally. It is commonly mixed with Dhania and Lal Bhaji. When Dr. Pandey once tried to measure the amount of adulterated Parthenium in leafy vegetables he found more than half part of Parthenium in many samples. “This adulteration is visible through naked eyes but vegetable growers say Parthenium infestation is everywhere even in crop fields and due to this unknowingly it mixes with our vegetables. But it is not true.” Dr. Pandey informed. It shows that intake of Parthenium is not as harmful as certain researchers assume.

The Traditional Healers consider it as toxic plant. Not because they have read the modern literatures but in general all exotic and newly introduced plants are considered toxic. They know nothing about it from their forefathers. They still try to search its uses and for it they adopt Traditional Healing principles and methods. I mentioned it during presentation that the Healers tried Parthenium in complex herbal formulations with other herbs. These herbs are added to nullify the harmful effects of Parthenium, if any. They are not in favor of using Parthenium as single herb as medicine. Although the recent experimentation on rat, Parthenium is used as single herb to manage Diabetes successfully but Healers are avoiding it at this initial stage. They are not using Parthenium collected from field. The selected plants are treated with different herbal extracts and leachate, like they treat medicinal herbs before collection. The purpose is to enrich Parthenium with desired medicinal properties. Enriched Parthenium is used for medicine. I emphasized that there is need for joint efforts of Traditional Healers and Modern Practitioners in this regard so that the medicinal uses of Parthenium can be tested under frame of modern clinical trials.

“It is not positive trend. The ‘Utilization Lobby’ is becoming stronger day by day. It must be stopped. In future conferences we will never allow this ‘Utilization Lobby’.” I was warned indirectly. I said openly as well as humbly that the researchers working on Parthenium utilization are not working mere to attend conferences on Parthenium. In the field of science everyone is free to work to serve the society. You can not stop any one to work. Parthenium is present in

Nature's field and Healers as well as researchers are observing it day and night. If they find it as useful plant they will develop medicines and other beneficial products from it. It is never ending process.

It should be never ending process.

Is this right decision to invest five more years for plus 35,000 cancer formulations?

Pankaj Oudhia

“It is not a schedule for Diabetes but schedule for healthy living. We are using Diabetes schedules suggested by you for me and my wife and getting its immense benefit. It seems that we are living new life.” I receive many such messages every day from my family friends and fans. I have suggested many of them to adopt special schedules for healthy living. As you know, in report on Type II Diabetes I have mentioned over 10,000 cases treated by the Traditional Healers successfully. The present size of report is plus 1000 GB i.e. 1 TB. New surveys are resulting in new information and as result I have to add more information in this report and in this way it seems that new updates will be continue life long.

Last week I completed the initial phase of writing Cancer formulations in specific format. There are over 35,000 formulations with much details and pictures and films. It is another herculean task for me. Today I was discussing about it with my father. “How much time it will require to complete this task?” He asked. “If I work 12 to 14 hours daily without any much break the report will be over in five years.” I replied. “Then you must wait for it. You have already wasted golden time of your life in documenting knowledge and visits to forests. Now enjoy life. Another five years of documentation will make you more sick as your health conditions were critical when you were writing Type II Diabetes report. You should pay attention to your health. Health is wealth. Sitting in front of computer up to ten hours daily will take your eye sight and also back pain will nearly kill you.” He said strictly. He is right. I am still facing the side effects of Diabetes report having over 550,000 large sized tables.

“Why don't you write important formulations only?” Many friends suggest. For me all formulations are of equal importance. Every formulation is having potential to save life. Like Diabetes schedules, there are schedules for cancer. These schedules are much complicated than the schedules I prepared earlier. I am fortunate that I am preparing this report in the time when we have computers like tools. It's easy to think of preparing such reports. It is next to impossible to write in paper about over 35,000 formulations by hand.

Putting five years to one more report is not so easy. I have to work for my bread and butter. Regular writing will affect my visits as well as on-going documentation work. While preparing Diabetes report I was hopeful to get financial assistance for that herculean task but possible

donors took more interest in breaking codes of report rather than adopting the right path to sponsor the work.

As I always write that I have prepared the reports bit earlier. It is still not possible to purchase 1000 GB space and upload the reports by your own. I have to wait for future when space for such documentation work will be available in less cost. Like Diabetes report my plan is to write Cancer report in code words. Management of millions of codes is a very tedious task. I keep it in many copies but many times it confuses me a lot. These codes are popping up from my hard disk i.e. my brain. In nights many times in sleep I utter these codes. When someone hears TAK, DO, ESP, TAKD, and BFC etc. in night he gets confused. It is neither mathematics nor biology. Then what is this?

These are the codes of Diabetes report. I am thinking of the situation when codes related to cancer report will start saving in my hard disk. Just joking---- but it is bitter fact also.

As alternate I have plan to publish preliminary information about these formulations through pankajoudhia.com. It will take one year to compile information in this format. I will wait for sponsors and in case of getting fund I will present full report.

My parents have given green signal for this alternate plan. It is most important thing.

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